

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Alejandro H. ABDELNUR, *et al.* ) Group Art Unit: Not Yet  
) Assigned  
Application No. 09/ )  
) Examiner: Not Yet  
Filed: April 6, 2001 ) Assigned  
)  
For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR )  
OPERATING A CONFIGURABLE )  
TRADE EXCHANGE )

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 6-18 as follows.

Claim 6, line 1, change "claims 1 and 2" to – claim 1 --,

Claim 7, line 1, change "claims 1 and 2" to – claim 1 --,

Claim 8, line 1, change "claims 3 and 4" to – claim 3 --,

Claim 9, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to – claim 1 --,

Claim 10, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to – claim 1 --,

Claim 11, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to – claim 1 --,

Claim 12, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to – claim 1 --,

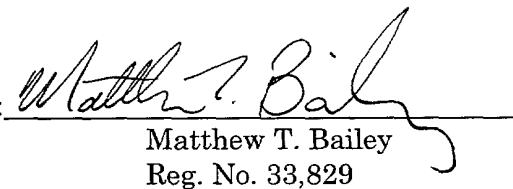
Claim 13, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to - claim 1 --,  
Claim 14, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to - claim 1 --,  
Claim 15, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to - claim 1 --,  
Claim 16, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to - claim 1 --,  
Claim 17, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to - claim 1 --,  
Claim 18, line 1, change "claims 1, 2, 3 and 4" to - claim 1 --,

### REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to delete the multiple dependencies of claims 6-18 and to place them in proper format. No new matter is being introduced by this amendment and is respectfully requested that the above amendment be examined on its merits.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 6, 2001

By:   
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